

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA

SUBJ: PRESS HIGHLIGHTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, OCT 17

"MUZOREWA INCLUDES SITHOLE IN SQUAD" - CARRYING SALISBURY  
DATELINE, THIS FRONT PAGE ARTICLE REPORTS THAT MUZOREWA WILL  
INCLUDE THREE POLITICAL DETAINEES IN HIS 31 MAN DELEGATION.  
ONE OF THESE IS EDSON SITHOLE; BELIEVE HE IS BEING HELD BY  
RHODESIAN AUTHORITIES. RHODESIANS DENY THIS. MUZOREWA GROUP  
IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT IT WOULD INCLUDE NDBANINGI SITHOLE  
IN ITS TEAM GPAHE WAS NOT GIVEN ANSNOTHER "LEGAL STATUS"  
AT TH CONFERENCE.

2. "PRESIDENTS MEETING" - FRONT PAGE INSERT NOTES THAT MACHEL,  
KHAMA, AND NYERERE ARRIVE IN LUSAKA OCT 17 FOR MEETING OF  
FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS.

3. "LET'S ENTER NEW ERA, CALLS KK" - SPEAKING AT A STATE DINNER  
IN HONOR OF PRIME MINISTER GANDHI, KAUNDA SAID ZAMBIA SUPPORTS  
RHODESIAN NATIONALISTS IN THE CURRENT EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION  
TO THE FUTURE OF RHODESIA AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE. HE WARNED  
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THAT, SHOULD NEGOTIATIONS FAIL TO PRODUCE MAJORITY RULE,

THEN IT MUST "COME OUT OF THE BARREL OF THE GUN." NATIONALISTS, SAID KAUNDA, CAN RELY ON ZAMBIA TO SUPPORT THEM FULLY IN THEIR INTENSIFIED ARMED STRUGGLE IF NEGOTIATIONS FAIL. HE DENOUNCED THE IDEA OF A CEASEFIRE WHILE THE CONFERENCE IS IN PROGRESS, "NEGOTIATIONS DO NOT MEAN THE END OF FIGHTING UNLESS AGREEMENT IS REACHED."

4. "THE MEN ON WHOM GENEVA TALKS LIE" - ARTICLE ANALYSES THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE RHODESIAN NATIONALIST LEADERS. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE NKOMO'S POLITICAL SUPPORTERS, HAVE MOVED TO THE MUZOREWA CAMP, AND NKOMO HAS TAKEN PAY OFFS FROM THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT. MUZOREWA IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING NO PERSONAL POLITICAL AMBITIONS; HIS ONLY DESIRE IS TO LEAD HIS NATION TO MAJORITY RULE. SITHOLE IS DESCRIBED AS MORE RESPONSIBLE THAN ANY OTHER NATIONALIST LEADER FOR BRINGING RHODESIANS TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE BY INSPIRING THE ARMED STRUGGLE. MUGABE IS ONE OF THE MOST ABLE OF THE NATIONALISTS, BUT HIS CLAIM TO SPEAK FOR THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS IS SUSPECT. IN FACT, THE EXCLUSION OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS FROM THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS THE ONE GREAT WEAKNESS OF THE TALKS. THE TRADITIONAL NATIONALIST LEADER WHO FINALLY GAINS THE BACKING OF THE NEW GENERATION FIGHTING IN THE BUSH WILL BE THE ONE TO RULE A BLACK RHODESIA. MUZOREWA APPEARS TO HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF COMMANDING THE SUPPORT OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. HOWEVER, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THE TRUE LEADER OF A FREE ZIMBABWE MUST BE CHOSEN BY THE ZIMBABWEAN PEOPLE. LOW

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